



Tourism Licensing Policy

Background

The Ministry of Tourism and Receptions has licensed resource based tourism businesses, though the license has had very little real meaning. Although the license is generally required by MNR is a pre-condition to receiving certain allocations such as land use permits, it provides nothing in the way of resource allocation security or even a framework for the administration of allocations.

Almost all MNR allocations are short term, that is, year by year. This provides none of the security necessary to encourage investment in business operations

Policy

The government of Ontario should work with NOTO to create a comprehensive Resource Based Tourism Allocation License with the following characteristics.

- A single, comprehensive license with a secure, longer term
- Attachment of allocations to the business
- Transferability of allocation assets among licensed businesses
- Clear and appropriate criteria
- Applicability to a wide range of business types
- Clear criteria based on provincial policy
- Effective, accepted dispute resolution mechanism
- Financial and technical resources to help businesses assume greater resource management responsibility
- Transparency and public accountability
- Support and participation of MNR, MTR and MNDM and the tourism industry
- NOTO would assume responsibility for administration of the licensing program on a fee for service basis under contract to the government of Ontario

Adopted by the NOTO Board of Directors February 7, 2005.